

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An electrical insulator comprising:

a dielectric rod (1) including at least one slot (10);

an optical fiber cable (2) situated in the slot (10);

a dielectric material (8) filling the slot (10) and holding the cable (2) without stress in the slot (10), said dielectric material contacting said optical fiber cable and an inside surface of said slot; and

a dielectric covering (3) surrounding the rod (1) and presenting outwardly-directed projections (30) in the form of skirts;

the electrical insulator being characterized in that the cable (2) is flexible; and

in that all of the space situated between the rod (1) and the cable (2) is filled with said dielectric filler and holding material (8).

2. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the slot (10) is deeper than it is wide;

in that the cable (2) is situated closer to the bottom (12) of the slot (10) than to the opening (11) of the slot (10); and

in that the covering (3) is a single piece secured to the rod (1) and directly in contact with the rod (1).

3. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 2, characterized in that wherein the depth (p) of the slot (10) lies in the range 15 mm to 25 mm.

4. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the covering (3) comprises a plurality of skirts (30) stacked one on another.

5. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 4, characterized in that wherein the electrical insulator also includes an intermediate tube (34) situated between the rod (1) and the covering (3).

6. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 5, characterized in that wherein the intermediate tube (34) and the covering (3) are made of the same material.

7. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the rod (1) includes a plurality of slots (10) regularly spaced apart around its periphery.

8. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the rod (1) is made of fiberglass.

9. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the filler and holding material (8) is a silicone paste that withstands
high temperatures.

10. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the optical fiber cable (2) is a telecommunications cable.

11. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the diameter (d) of the optical fiber cable (2) lies in the range 5 mm
to 10 mm.

12. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrical insulator according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the optical fiber cable (2) comprises a central reinforcing element
(21) having tubes (22) disposed thereabout, said tubes (22) containing said optical fibers (23),
and themselves being surrounded by an outer sheath (26).

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13. (previously presented): An electrically insulating transition comprising an electrical insulator according to claim 1, the electrically insulating transition being characterized in that it comprises at least two parts that are releasably connected together, namely the electrical insulator and a box (51) situated at one end (5) of the electrical insulator.

14. (currently amended): ~~An~~ The electrically insulating transition according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the box (51) contains a cassette (4) for storing optical fiber splices.

15. (currently amended): A system comprising at least one optical phase conductor (7) connected to an electrically insulating transition comprising an electrical insulator according to claim 1.

16. (canceled).